

MOTION BY SUPERVISOR DON KNABE

December 17, 2013

Small businesses are a vital sector of the Los Angeles County economy and we should do all that we can to offer support and guidance towards their development. Unfortunately, the County can too often be unhelpful or absent in the plight of small business owners to get established. Or worse than that, we can actually get in their way and make things more difficult for them to get their businesses started.

Currently, entrepreneurs who wish to start a small business may be required to obtain a business license from the Treasurer and Tax Collector, and additional approvals may be required from various County departments such as Regional Planning, Public Works, Public Health, Fire, and Sheriff. Starting a small business can be a challenging endeavor, and the County's process can be burdensome and confusing to first-time business owners, especially if they do not know who to contact and how to start the process.

We should make it as easy as possible for small businesses to navigate expediently through our various requirements. The County needs to review and evaluate our current small business support systems, and determine how to better assist individuals who are looking to start a small business in the County.

MOTION

MOLINA \_\_\_\_\_

RIDLEY-THOMAS \_\_\_\_\_

YAROSLAVSKY \_\_\_\_\_

ANTONOVICH \_\_\_\_\_

KNABE \_\_\_\_\_



**I, THEREFORE, MOVE** that the Board of Supervisors direct the Chief Executive Officer, in conjunction with the Department of Regional Planning, Department of Public Works, Department of Public Health, Fire Department, Sheriff's Department, Treasurer and Tax Collector, and any other relevant Departments that interact with small business, to review the existing County procedures regarding permitting and other related requirements for starting a small business, and report back within 90 days with recommendations on ways to assist small businesses in navigating through the County's procedural requirements. The analysis should also include (1) the feasibility of establishing a one-stop small business concierge service that offers guidance on the County's processes, including the role, staffing level and cost projection for such service; and (2) the feasibility of creating a comprehensive web portal to better assist small business owners.

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